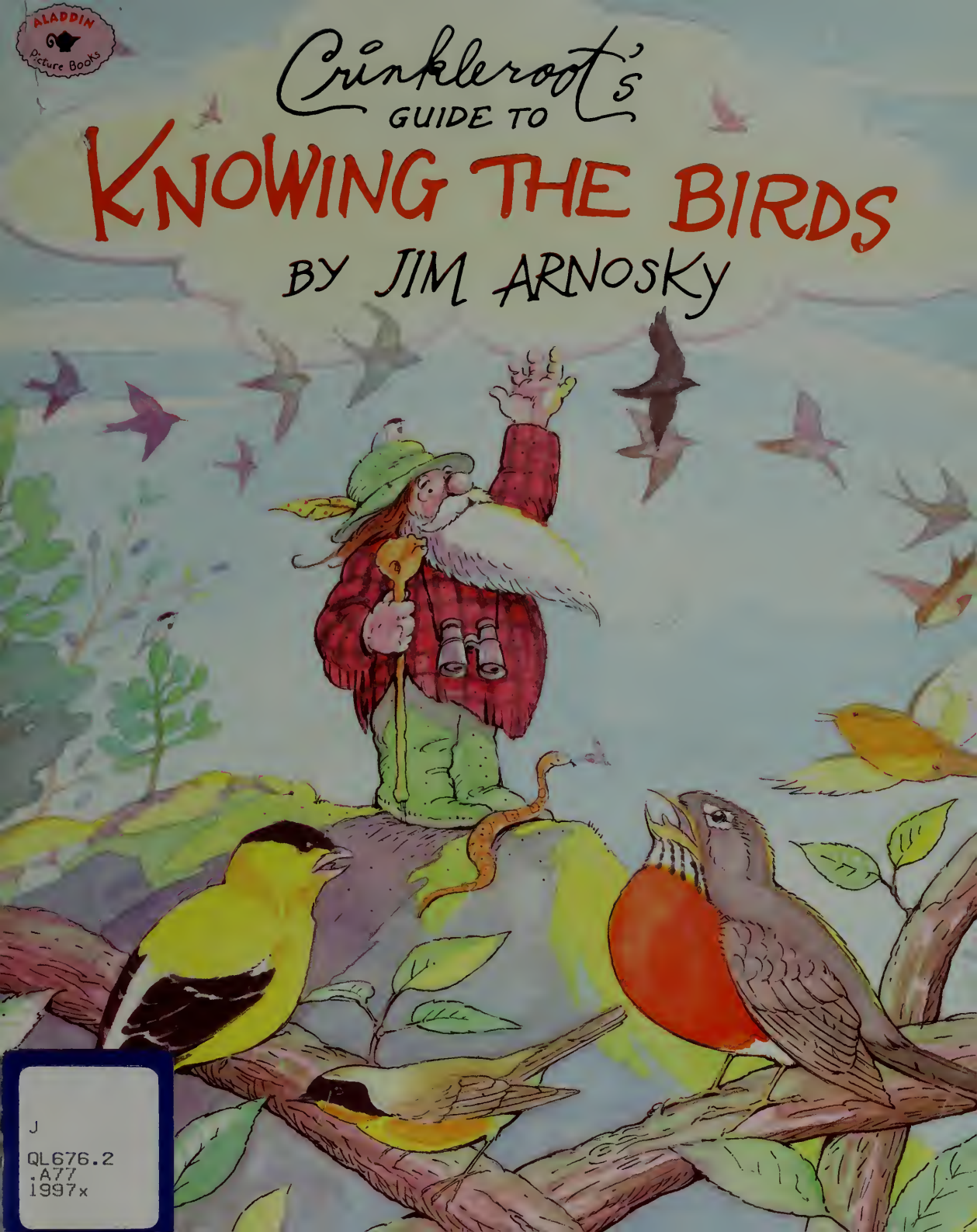

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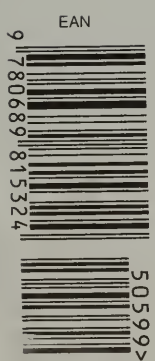

Crinkleroot's GUIDE TO KNOWING THE BIRDS

BY JIM ARNOSKY

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Crinkleroot's Book of Animal Tracking

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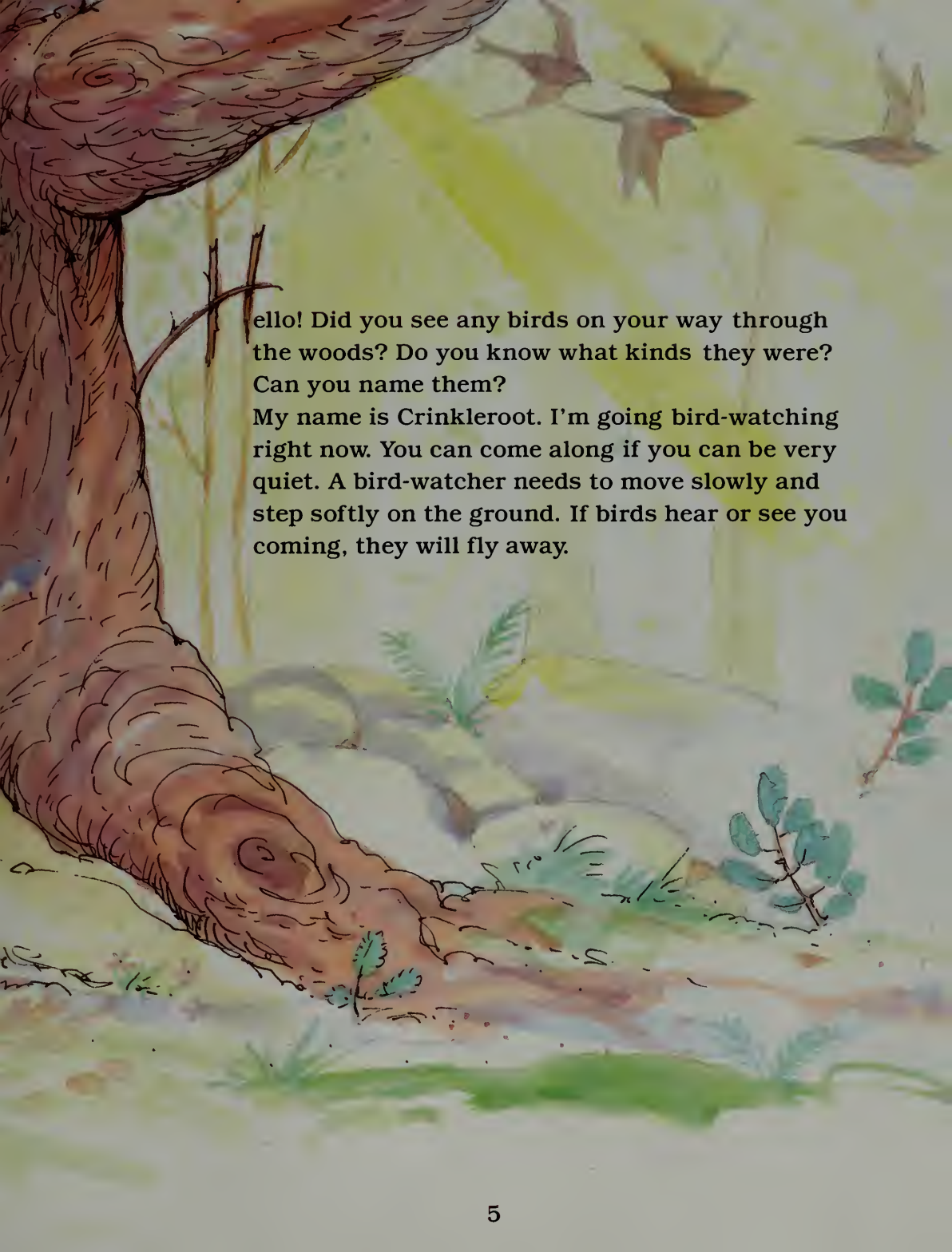


Hello! Did you see any birds on your way through the woods? Do you know what kinds they were? Can you name them?

My name is Crinkleroot. I'm going bird-watching right now. You can come along if you can be very quiet. A bird-watcher needs to move slowly and step softly on the ground. If birds hear or see you coming, they will fly away.

I'm using my binocular to see the birds more closely while still keeping a distance from them.

FOCUS RING

THESE ARE THE LENSES YOU LOOK THROUGH.

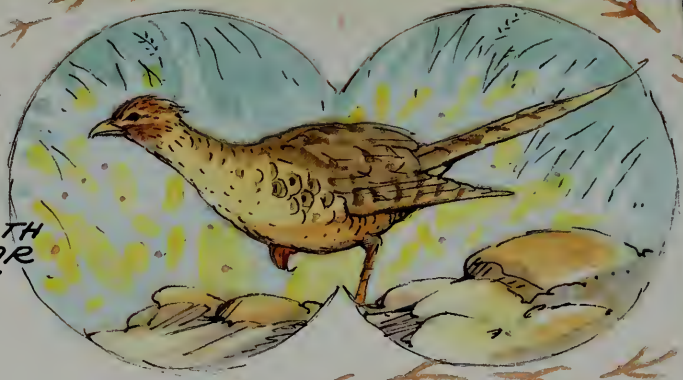
THESE ARE THE LENSES THAT COLLECT THE IMAGES YOU SEE.

HINGE

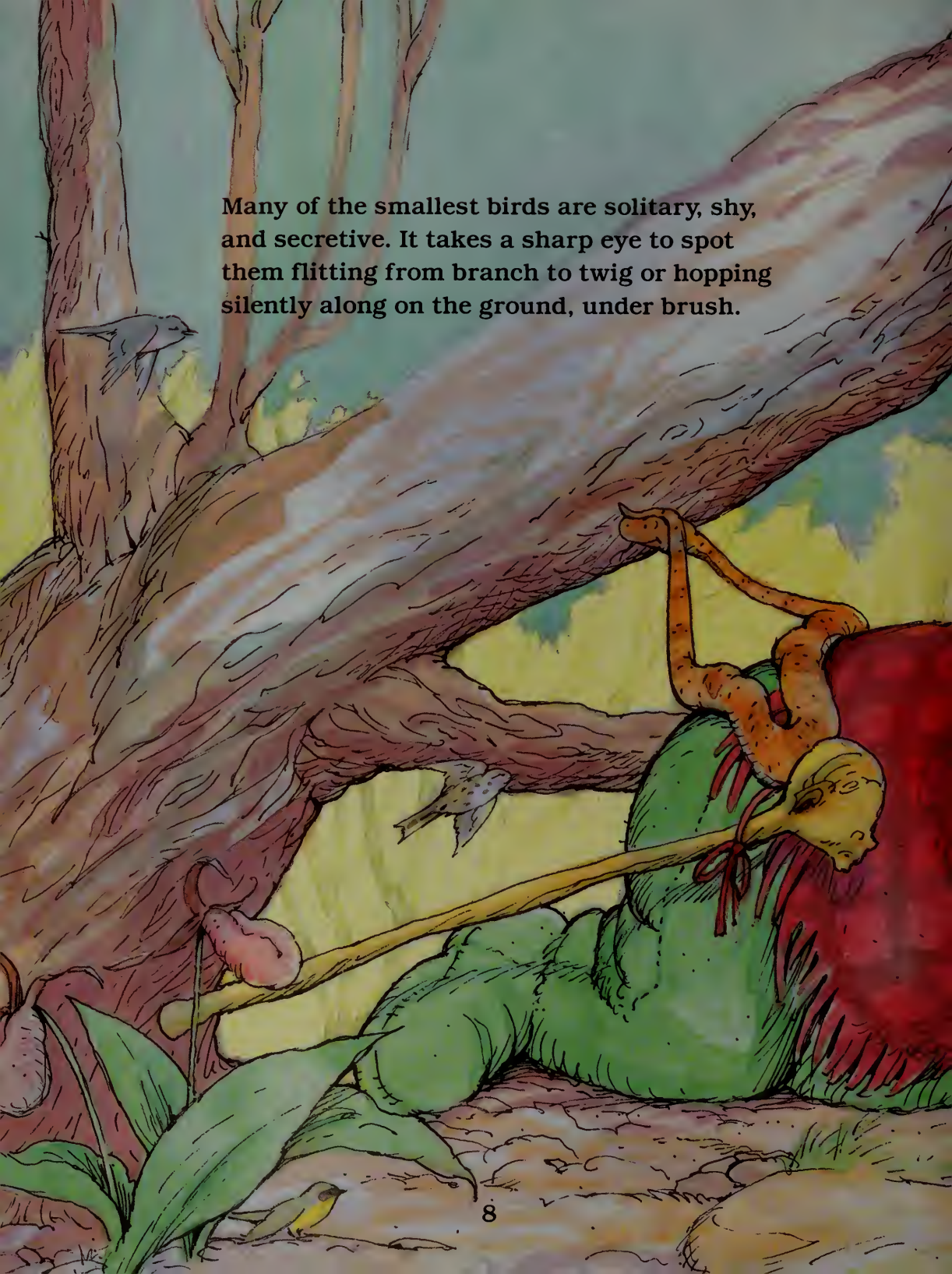
THE HINGE IN THE CENTER OF YOUR BINOCULAR CAN BE PINCHED CLOSED OR WIDENED TO MATCH YOUR EYES.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND WILDLIFE BY SCANNING WITH A BINOCULAR.

I ALWAYS SPOT WILDLIFE FIRST WITH MY NAKED EYES.



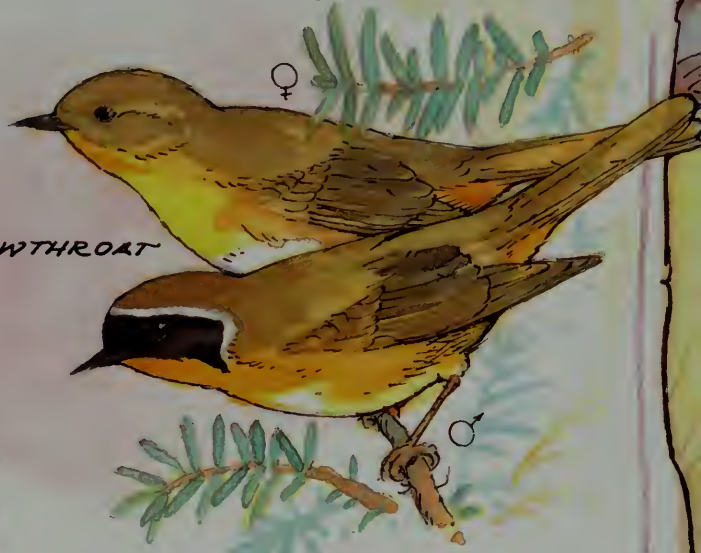
THEN I ZOOM IN WITH MY BINOCULAR FOR A CLOSER LOOK!



Many of the smallest birds are solitary, shy, and secretive. It takes a sharp eye to spot them flitting from branch to twig or hopping silently along on the ground, under brush.

♂ MALE ♀ FEMALE

HERE ARE TWO SPECIES OF SMALL, VERY SHY BIRDS FOR YOU TO LOOK FOR.

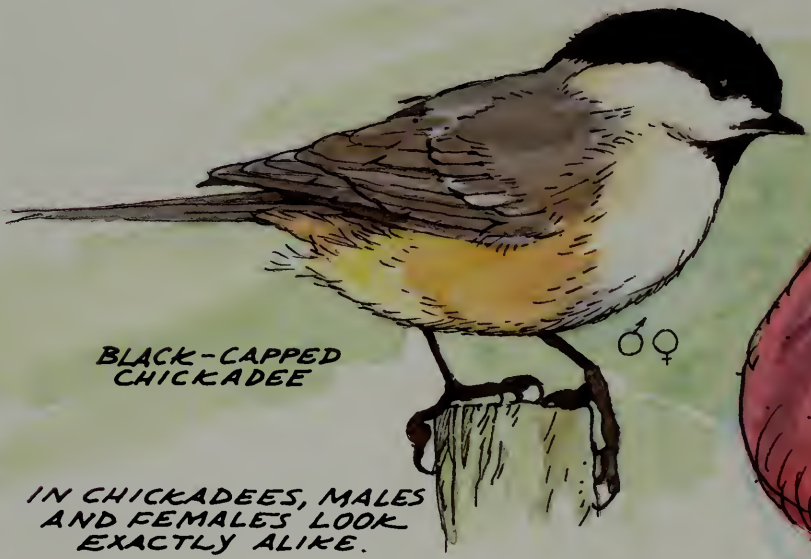


YELLOWTHROAT

NOTICE HOW IN BIRDS IT IS OFTEN THE MALE WHO IS THE MORE COLORFUL OR STRIKINGLY MARKED.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET ♀

Chickadees are small birds that are not secretive or shy at all. On the contrary, chickadees are the friendliest birds I know.

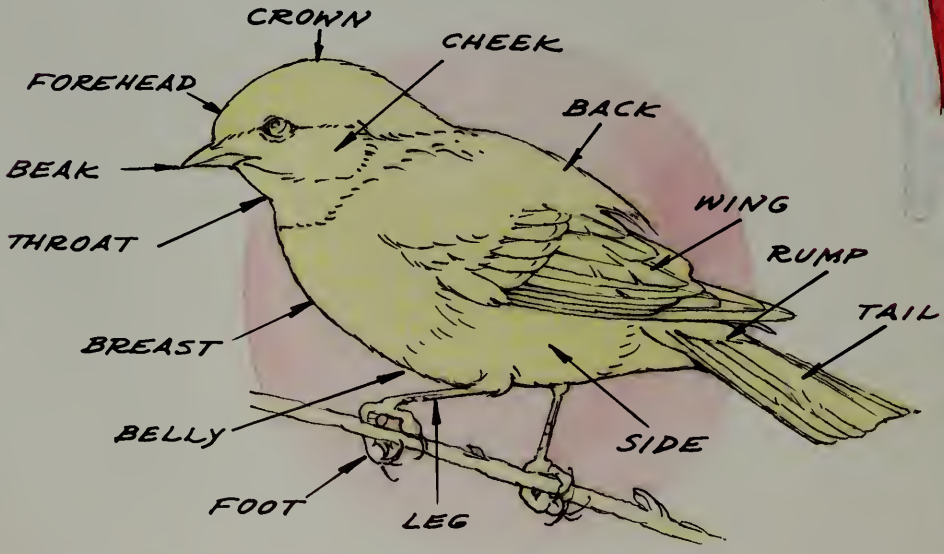


BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE

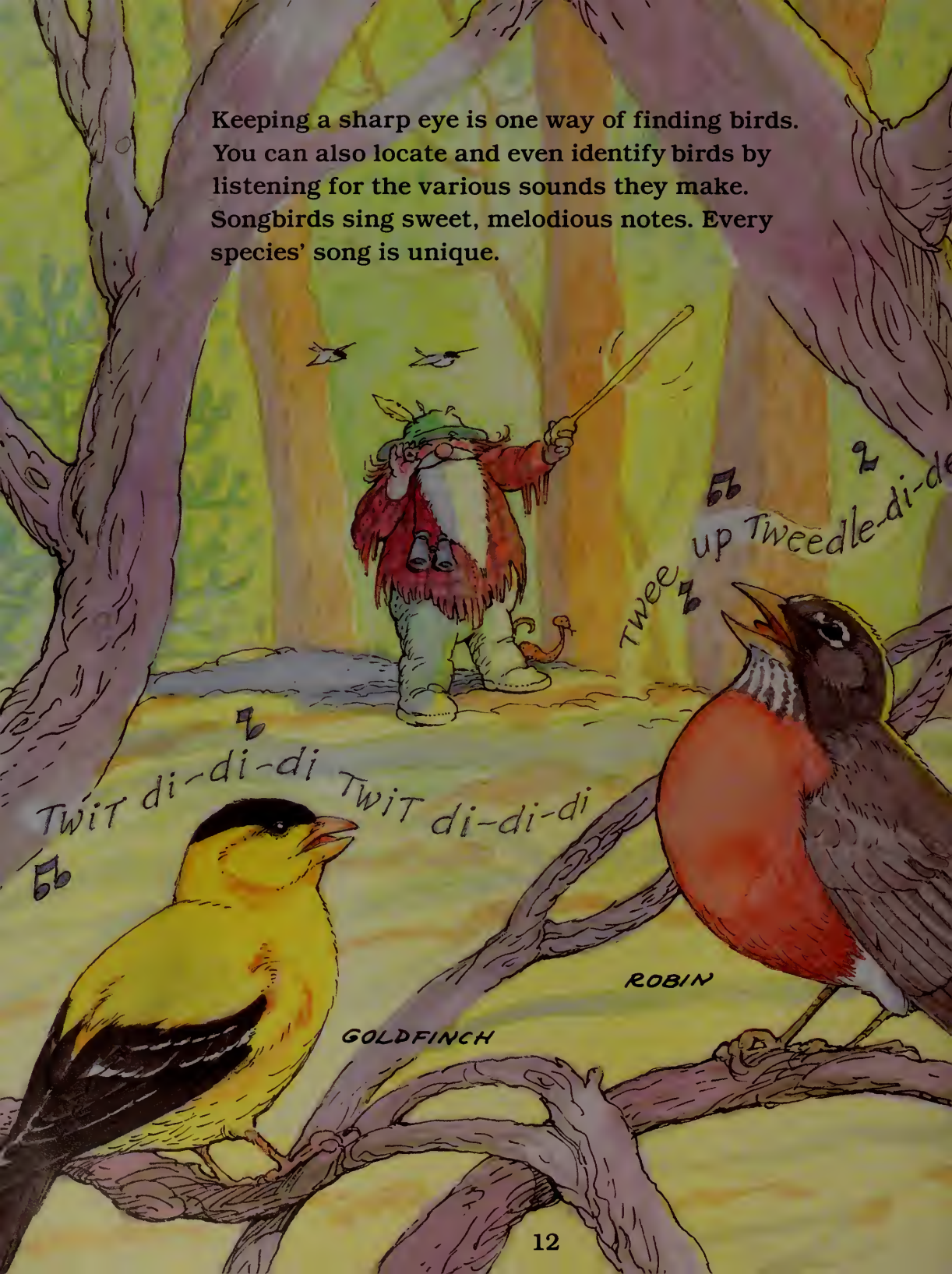
♂♀

IN CHICKADEES, MALES AND FEMALES LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE.

THE CHICKADEE DRAWING BELOW SHOWS ALL THE PARTS OF A BIRD.

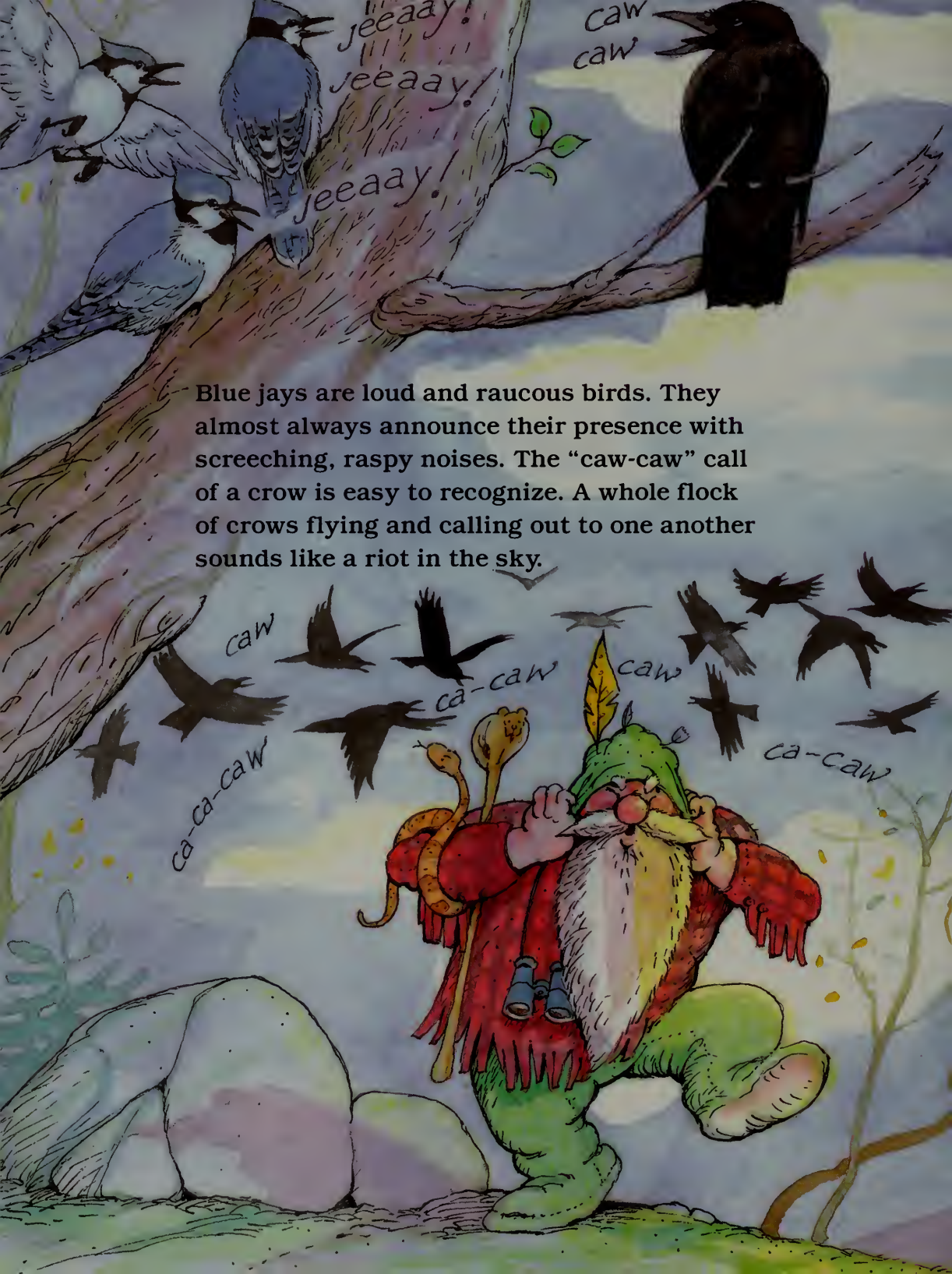


If you stay very still, be patient, and don't stare directly at them, they will even take seeds from your hand.



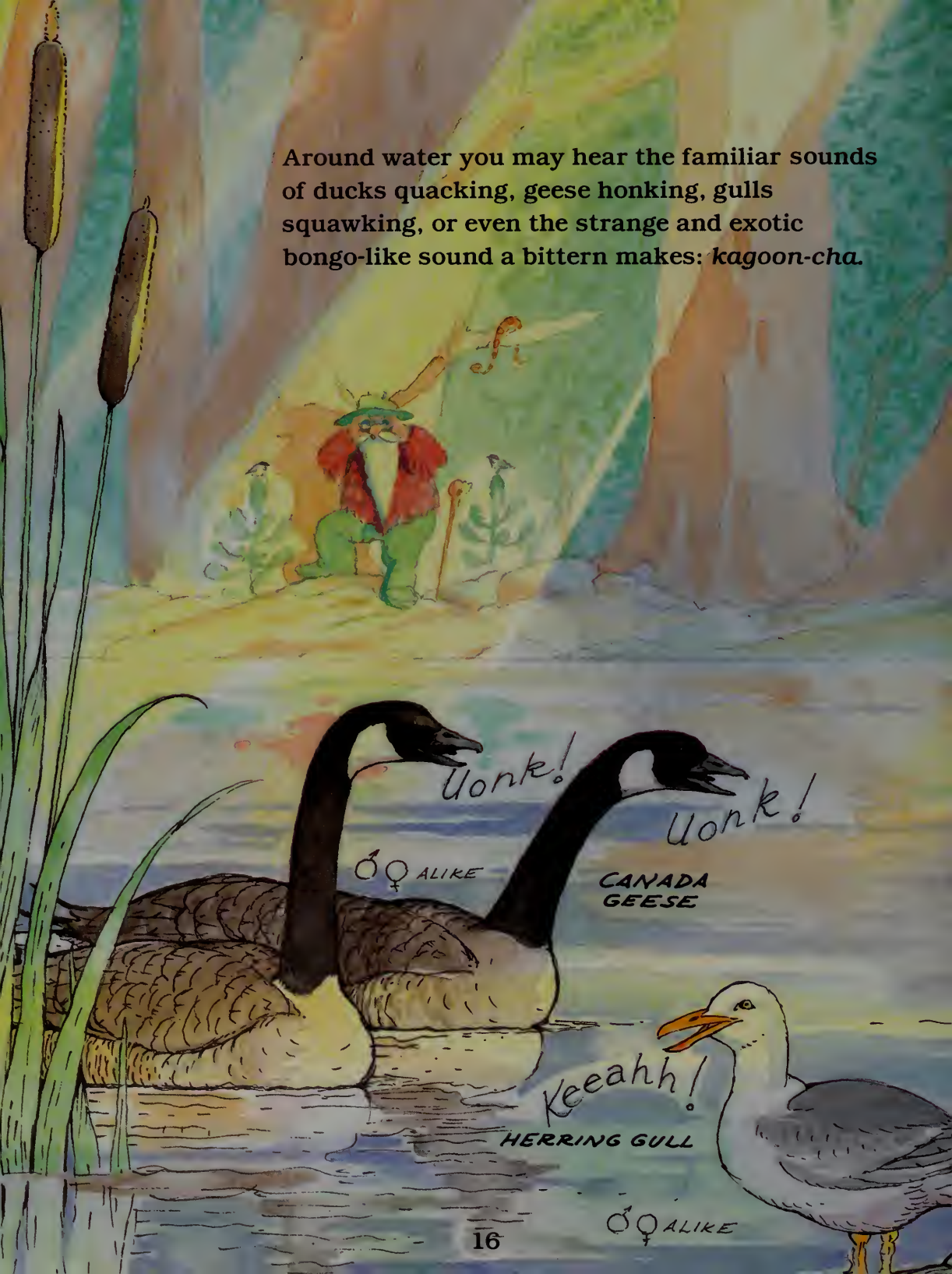
Keeping a sharp eye is one way of finding birds. You can also locate and even identify birds by listening for the various sounds they make. Songbirds sing sweet, melodious notes. Every species' song is unique.

IN SONGBIRDS, MALES DO MOST OF THE SINGING.



Blue jays are loud and raucous birds. They almost always announce their presence with screeching, raspy noises. The "caw-caw" call of a crow is easy to recognize. A whole flock of crows flying and calling out to one another sounds like a riot in the sky.

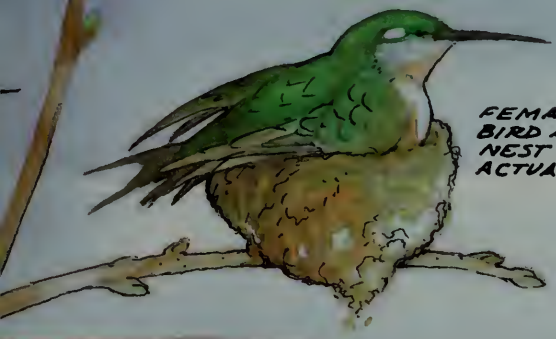
Woodpeckers knock, knock, knock on dead and dying trees to chip away bits of bark and feed on insects living in the rotting wood.


Around water you may hear the familiar sounds of ducks quacking, geese honking, gulls squawking, or even the strange and exotic bongo-like sound a bittern makes: *kagoon-cha.*
Uonk!
Uonk!
♂♀ ALIKE
CANADA GEESE
Keeahh!
HERRING GULL
♂♀ ALIKE

Weeeak
♀
Weeeeeeeeh
♂
WOOD DUCKS
Kagoon-cha!
Quack!
MALLARD DUCKS
ack
ck
Quack
♂
♀
BITTERN
♂♀ ALIKE

Hummingbirds are named after the humming sound their wings make as they zip around from flower to flower, licking up sweet nectar with their long, slippery tongues.

HUMMINGBIRDS ARE THE SMALLEST BIRDS IN THE WORLD!



FEMALE BIRD AND NEST SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE

THE TINY NEST MADE OF PLANT DOWN AND SPIDER SILK IS JUST BIG ENOUGH INSIDE TO CUP TWO PEA-SIZED EGGS.

BIRD NESTS COME IN A VARIETY OF SIZES, SHAPES, AND MATERIALS. HERE ARE JUST A FEW TYPES.

HANGING CUP NEST OF BARK STRIPS AND PLANT FIBERS.

WARBLING VIREO

NEST OF GRASS, TWIGS, AND MUD.

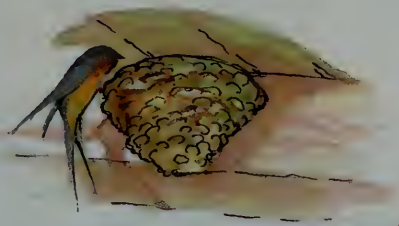
ROBIN

WOVEN BAG NEST OF PLANT FIBERS, BARK, AND STRING.

ORIOLE

EXCAVATED HOLE NEST.

WOODPECKER



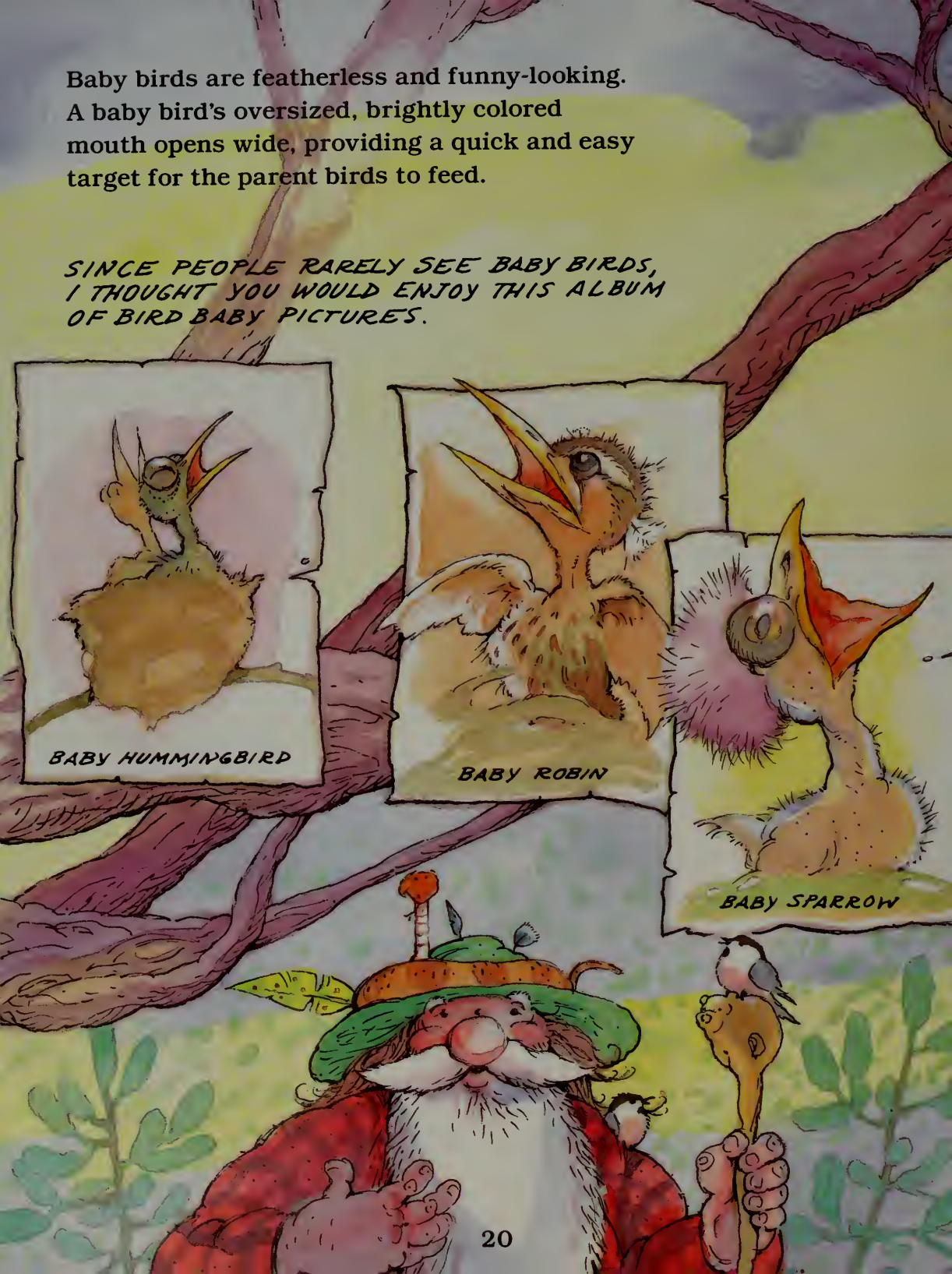
MUD-DAUBED NEST.

BARN SWALLOW

LARGE NEST OF COARSE BRANCHES AND TWIGS.

RAVEN

Baby birds are featherless and funny-looking. A baby bird's oversized, brightly colored mouth opens wide, providing a quick and easy target for the parent birds to feed.


SINCE PEOPLE RARELY SEE BABY BIRDS, I THOUGHT YOU WOULD ENJOY THIS ALBUM OF BIRD BABY PICTURES.
BABY HUMMINGBIRD
BABY ROBIN
BABY SPARROW

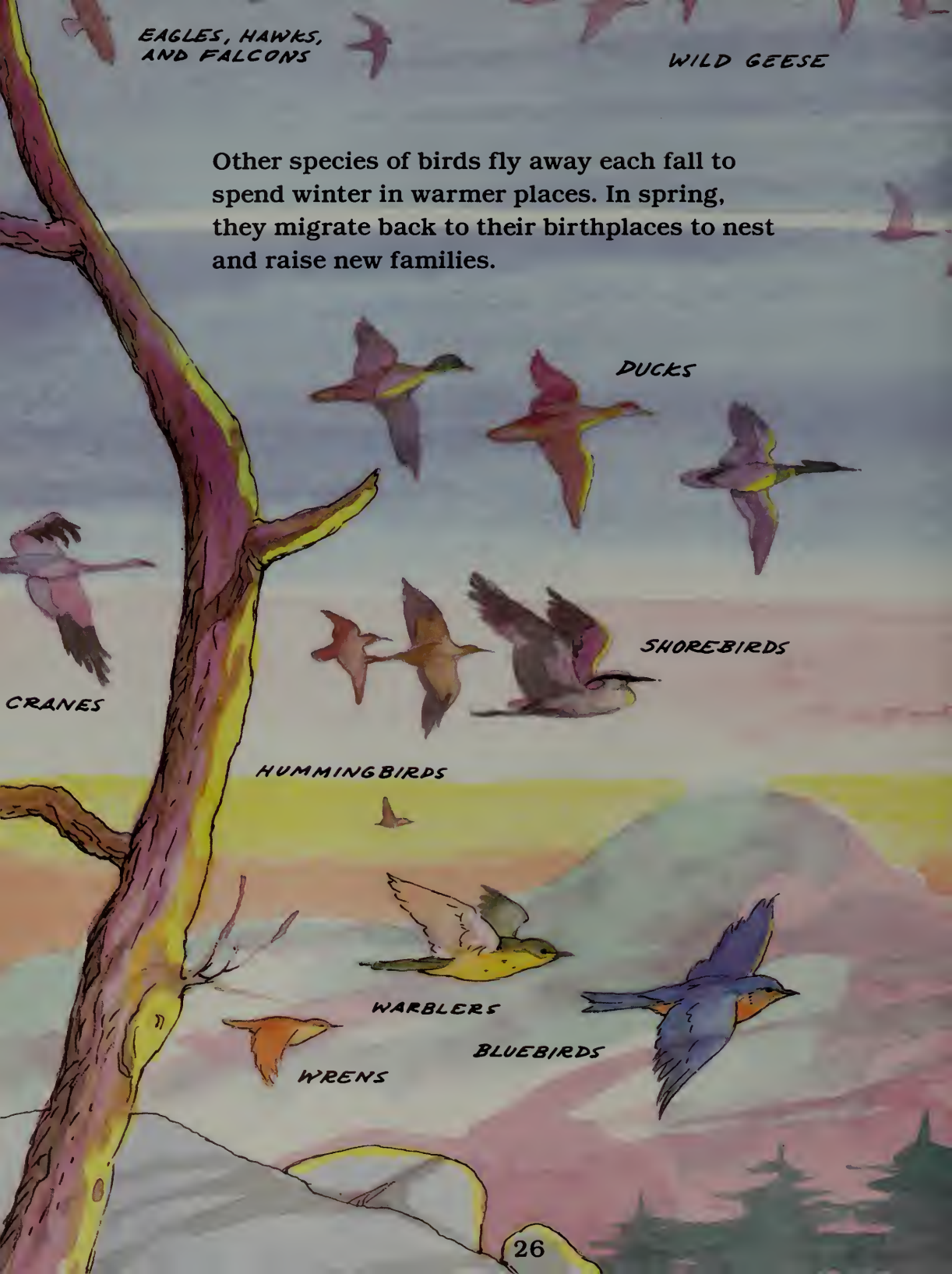
BIRD PARENTS ARE KEPT BUSY BRINGING FOOD TO THEIR ALWAYS HUNGRY BABIES.

Baby birds grow fast. In a matter of weeks, they are as big as their parents. As soon as they have grown all of their feathers, they are ready to leave the nest and fly.

TWO WEEKS
IN THREE WEEKS THE YOUNGSTER IS READY TO FLY!
EVEN THOUGH THEY CLOSELY RESEMBLE ADULTS, YOU CAN IDENTIFY YOUNG SWALLOWS BY THEIR STILL VERY COLORFUL MOUTHS.
IN MANY SPECIES, YOUNG BIRDS DO NOT GROW THEIR ADULT PLUMAGE FOR SOME TIME, AND CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS YOUNGSTERS BY THEIR JUVENAL PLUMAGE.
JUVENAL ROBIN
ADULT ROBIN

Some species of birds are born and stay all their lives in the same general area. These "resident" birds can be seen year-round.

HAIRY
OODPECKER
GREAT-HORNED
OWL
SCREECH OWL
TITMOUSE
ALL OF THE BIRDS SHOWN
ARE YEAR-ROUND RESIDENTS.
CARDINAL
CHICKADEE
PILEATED
WOODPECKER
NUTHATCH
RUFFED GROUSE
WILD TURKEY

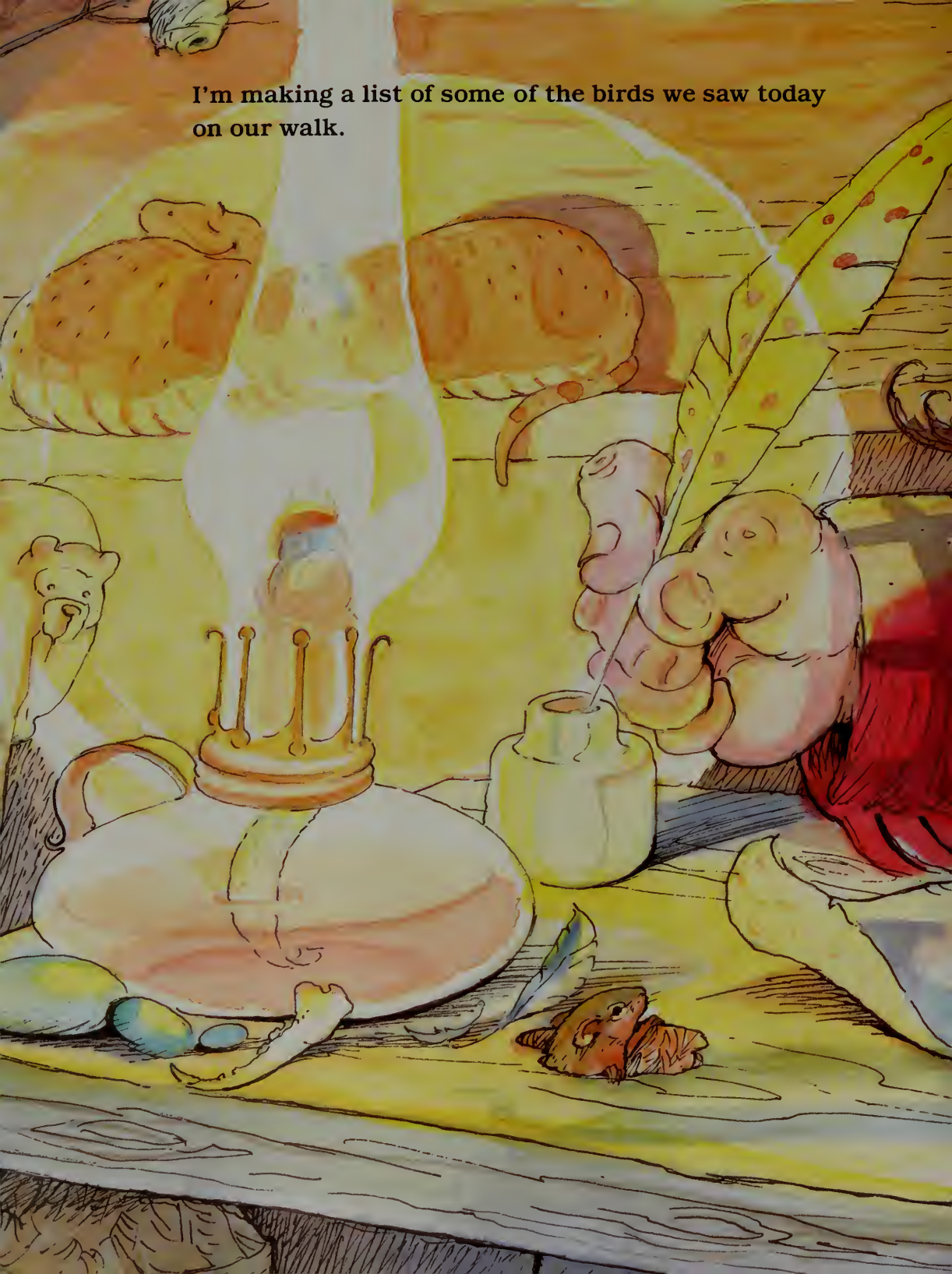


Other species of birds fly away each fall to spend winter in warmer places. In spring, they migrate back to their birthplaces to nest and raise new families.

SWALLOWS
SWIFTS
BLACKBIRDS

Wherever they stay and wherever they go, birds add color, lively motion, and cheer to the landscape.

HERE ARE SOME SURE WAYS TO ATTRACT A VARIETY OF BIRDS TO YOUR AREA!
PLANT SHRUBS AND TREES TO GIVE BIRDS PLENTY OF PLACES TO HIDE.
PROVIDE A WATERING SPOT.
LET DYING TREES STAND.
HANG NESTING BOXES.
SUET
INSTALL A FEEDING STATION ACCOMMODATING DIFFERENT BIRDS' DIETS.
SEEDS
NECTAR
PUT A BELL ON YOUR CAT TO WARN BIRDS OF DANGER.


I'm making a list of some of the birds we saw today on our walk.

HERE IS A LIST OF SOME OF THE BIRDS WE SAW!

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BITTERN	17	AND BLUEBIRD	
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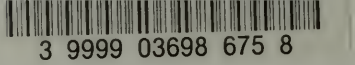
your friend
Crinkleroot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JIM ARNOSKY is a naturalist and the author-illustrator of numerous non-fiction books for children. He has won the *Washington Post*/Children's Book Guild Award for his overall contribution to non-fiction for children; the 1991 Eva L. Gordon Award, given by the American Nature Study Society, for his oustanding children's science literature; and the Christopher Award for his classic work, *Drawing from Nature.*

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Crinkleroot offers tips on everything a young bird-watcher needs to know: how to use binoculars, how best to spot birds in the wild, how to identify them by sight and sound, how to attract them to yards—even how to imitate their songs. Bird-watching is the perfect activity for families to share, and *Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing the Birds* is the ideal book to introduce young children to its pleasures.

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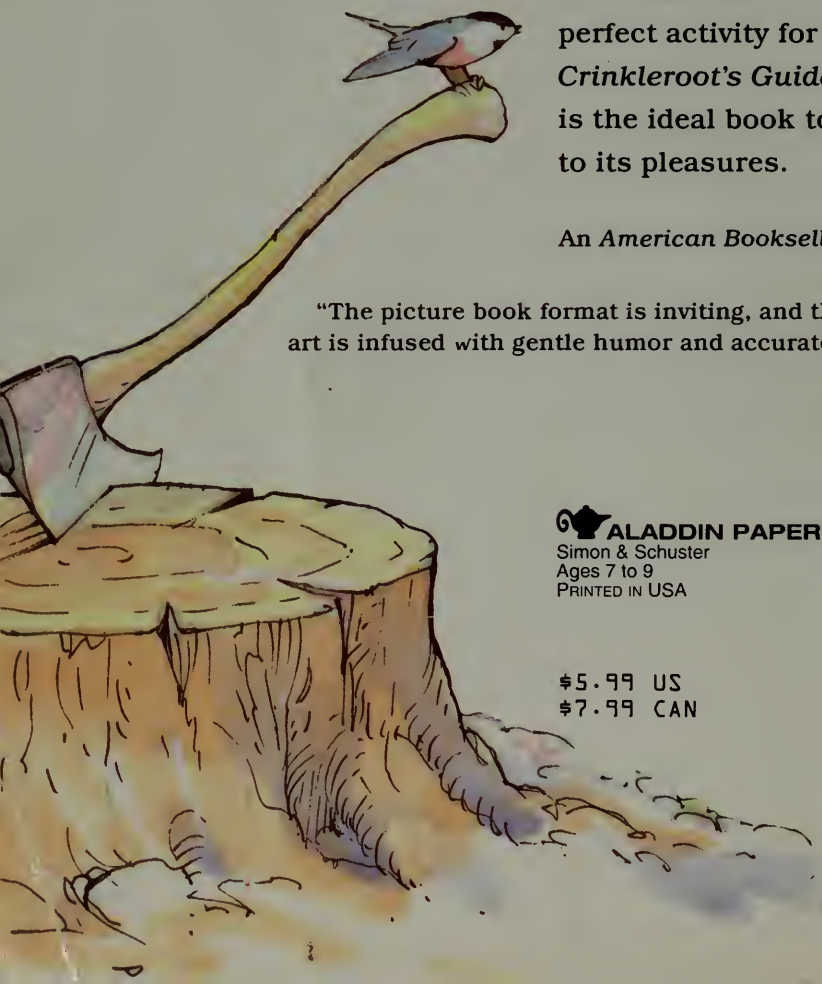

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